



John and Mary Frances Patton Peace & War Center CONTRIBUTOR GUIDELINES “Voices on Peace and War”

Thank you for answering our invitation to contribute an article to our online forum, “[Voices on Peace and War](#).” We understand and value the time and effort that goes into writing a meaningful piece, and we hope you find these general guidelines helpful.

SUBJECT MATTER

We welcome essays on a wide range of topics, and leave the choice of subject matter to the author’s discretion. We ask only that your essay convey a civil tone, and that you connect your topic to peace and war in some way, whether directly or indirectly.

POINT OF VIEW

“Voices on Peace and War” is a collection of opinion pieces, and it’s your choice whether to write in the first or third person. If you feel the subject should carry a more formal tone, you may opt for third person. If you have a personal connection to the subject, you may wish to write in the first person. Either way, we ask that you substantiate your opinions.

SOURCES AND CITATIONS

Please use the citation style that best suits your essay.

In-Text Citations

If your piece contains fewer citations and they’re all available online, you may opt for journalism-style attribution, acknowledging your sources directly in the text with an accompanying hyperlink. For example: According to [John Doe of the New York Times](#), “[quote here.]” etc. etc. etc.

Footnotes/Endnotes

If you opt to write an academic-style essay with footnotes or endnotes, please format the document using the footnote or endnote tool in Word. Those migrate well into our web platform. Please also include a list of references as you would with an academic paper. We may only publish the notes, but we like to have the source list to reference if needed.

SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION

- If your piece falls on the longer side, we encourage you to use sub-headings to break it up.
- We are happy to embed tags into your essay, to make it more likely to appear on a search of certain keywords. You, as author, likely know these keywords better than we. To make publishing most efficient, please provide up to four keywords if you’d like your piece tagged.

EDITORIAL PROCESS: All essays undergo editorial review and proofing. We will consult you if major editing is required.

HEADLINE/TITLE: The optimum word count for the headline or essay title is 8 to 9 words. We may adjust your headline for impact and length.

LENGTH: Essays should run from 750 to 1,500 words.

IMAGERY: We obtain our accompanying images from [iStock](#). If you’d like to recommend an image, feel free to explore iStock and send your choice(s) along for consideration.